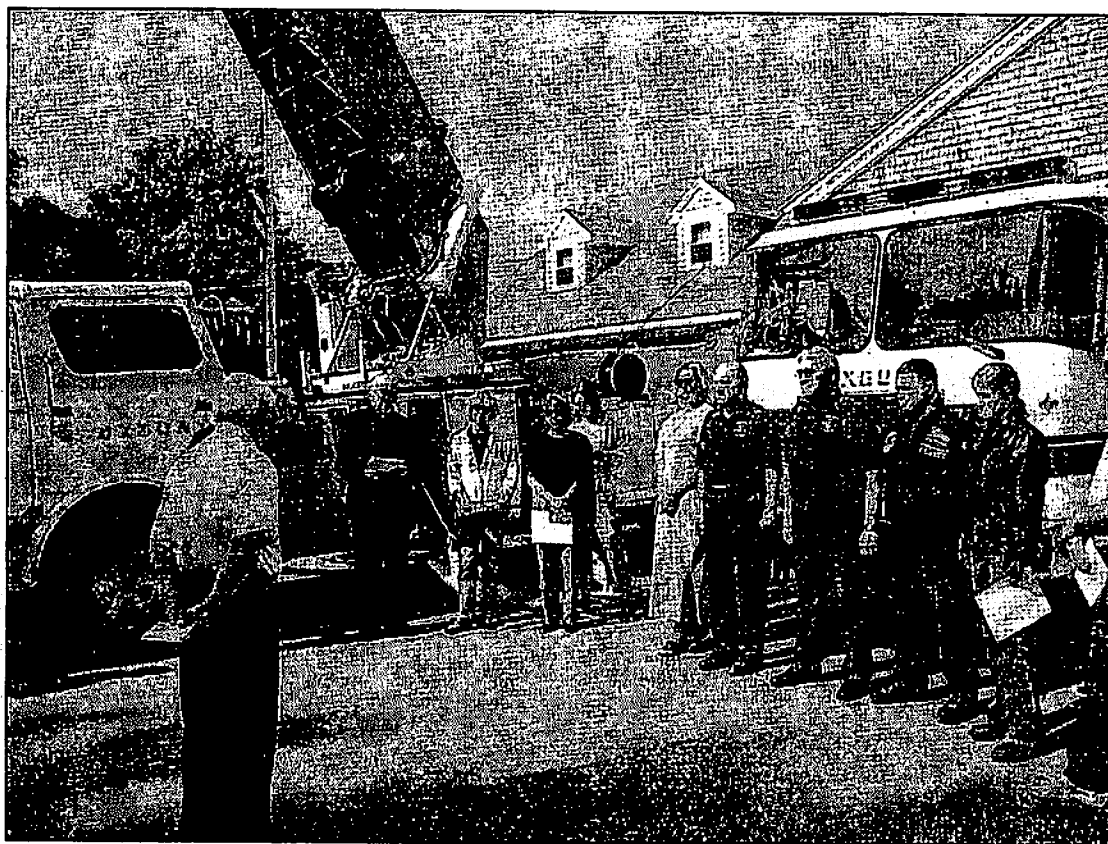


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Duxbury Clipper



Fire Chief Bill Harriman speaks during a ceremony in remembrance of firefighters who died on Sept. 11, 2001.

9/11 Remembered by Fire Dept.

By KEITH L. MARTIN

Duxbury's fire department remembered their fallen brothers from New York in a solemn ceremony on September 11.

With three fire engines pulled to the front of the station and the flag at half-mast, Chief Bill Harriman started Thursday's ceremony at 10:00 a.m. with four sets of five bell chimes, which signifies the death of a firefighter in the

line of duty.

Following a one minute moment of silence, Harriman spoke to those assembled about the need to remember the events of two years ago and the 343 members of the New York City Fire Department who lost their lives. Monsignor William Glynn of Holy Family Church then led the group in a prayer and a reading of the Firefighter's Prayer.

The ceremony concluded with another set of chimes and the raising of the flag back to full staff.

After the ceremony, Harriman said that while the ceremony was recommended to all fire departments in the state by the president of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts, it was important for Duxbury to honor their brothers.

Fire Department

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"It was very important not only to be part of the group, but to know that even firefighters who couldn't be here [at the ceremony] were stopping at 10:00 a.m. to reflect," he said. "We are all one house bell or radio call away from the same fate."

Harriman added that while he did not want to minimize the massive loss of civilian lives, police and other public safety officers who died on 9/11, his department has a special connection to those firefighters who died in the line of duty.

"For one department to lose that many men is so overwhelming," he said. "We know members of that department who did not get killed and we reach out to them also. They are our brothers because they are firefighters."

Donna Pizura, assistant director of the Duxbury Senior Center, was one of a handful of citizens who turned out to participate in the ceremony. She said that no matter how much time passes since that tragic day, we should all take time to remember those who lost their lives.

"We don't ever want to forget 9/11 and with what's going on now in the world, we tend to focus on the present and forget the past," said Pizura. "If we stop to remember for a minute or five minutes, it is worth it."